CLAIMS

1. A peptide containing at least 6 amino acid residues and having at least 70% homology with part or all of the sequence

AEFHRWSSYMVHWK.

2. A peptide comprising or consisting of the sequence YMVH or MVHW or VHWK and having at least 70% homology with part or all of the sequence

AEFHRWSSYMVHWK.

3 A mixture of the peptide of claim 1 or claim 2 with another peptide having at least 4 amino acid residues and having at least 70% homology with the β-amyloid precursor sequence

DAEFRHDSGYEVHHQK.

4. A probe consisting of the peptide of claim 1 or claim 2 or the mixture of claim 3, labelled with a signal moiety, or immobilised on a support.

5. A compound which competes with the peptide of claim 1 or claim 2 for binding to a receptor therefor and which thereby inhibits the biological activity of the said peptide.

6. A compound as claimed in claim 5, wherein the biological activity is modulating a calcium-channel-opening activity.

7. A compound as claimed in claim 5 or claim 6, which is capable of crossing the blood-brain barrier.

8. An antibody to the peptide of claim 1 or claim 2.

9. An antibody as claimed in claim 8 which is of the IgG class.

10. An antibody fragment or chimeric or humanised antibody comprising variable regions of the antibody of claim 8 or claim 9.

11. A method of preparing a composition for treatment of disorders of the central nervous system or stroke or cancer, which method comprises bringing a compound according to any one of claims 5 to 10 into a form for human administration.

12. A method of preparing a composition for controlling cytoplasmic calcium ion concentration *in vivo*, which method comprises bringing a compound according to any one of claims 5 to 10 into a form for human administration.